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ABSTRACT

The background, current structure, and functions of the Czechoslovakian educational system are described in this booklet. Topics include history, legal basis, structure, administration, financing, academic calendar, language of instruction, and the grading system. The following seven educational categories are discussed: (1) preschool education which includes day-care centers and nursery schools; (2) compulsory elementary education which provides basic nine-year schooling from age 6-15; (3) secondary education which is applied for by graduates of the elementary program and is divided into general, vocational, apprentice, and evening workers program; (4) special education which provides instruction for the physically and mentally handicapped; (5) people's arts and language schools which provide optional study in the visual arts, performing arts, and foreign languages; (6) teacher education which trains students according to the grade level to be taught; (7) higher education which consists of universities, technical schools, colleges of arts, agriculture, economics, forestry, theology, and veterinary medicine. References, a glossary of terms, and a directory of Czech higher education institutions are included in the document. (Author/DB)

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The Educational System of

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE
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THE COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE

Official Name: Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.
Location: Central Eastern Europe.
Size: 49,371 square miles.
Main Subdivisions: A federal state consisting of two socialist Republics: The Czech Socialist Republic (Bohemia and Moravia) and the Slovak Socialist Republic (Slovakia).
Official Languages: Czech and Slovak.
Population: 14.9 million (1975 estimate).
Ethnic Groups: Approximately 65 percent Czech, 30 percent Slovak, and 5 percent Hungarian, German, Polish, and Ukrainian.
Literacy Rate: Virtually 100 percent.
Religion: Approximately 77 percent Roman Catholic, 20 percent Protestant, and 2 percent other.

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THE BASIC SYSTEM

History

Knowledge and education have long been highly esteemed among the Czechs (in the west of Czechoslovakia) and also among the Slovaks (in the east). In medieval times education in the heart of Europe was supported by Czech kings and princes, with opportunities not only for the nobility and the rich but for the common people and the poor as well. Charles University was founded in Prague as early as 1348 by Charles IV, King of Bohemia and Holy Roman Emperor from 1346 to 1378.

Two great national leaders who greatly advanced the cause of education in early times were John Hus (1369–1415), the religious reformer, and John Amos Comenius (1592–1670), the internationally recognized educational leader. The legacy of these and other leaders was furthered by institutions such as Charles University and by rulers such as Maria Theresa, Queen of Hungary and Bohemia from 1740 to 1780, under whom educational reformers laid the foundations of elementary instruction and compulsory attendance. By the end of the 18th century, an education system in the humanist spirit had been established for the Bohemian territories (in the western part of present-day Czechoslovakia). Educational development in these territories continued to be closely connected with Germany and Austria, although the Czech language was used in schools, courts, newspapers, and theaters.

The situation was different in Slovakia, which was principally under Hungarian control. In 1918, when the Czechoslovak state came into

CZECHOSLOVAKIA
International boundary
Republic boundary
Kraj boundary
National capital
PRAGUE Republic capital
Kraj capital
Railroad
Road
0 25 50 75 100 Miles
0 25 50 75 100 Kilometers
EAST GERMANY
(SOVIET ZONE)
POLAND
AUSTRIA
HUNGARY
ROM.
CZECH SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
SLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
SEVEROČESKÝ
ZÁPADOČESKÝ
STŘEDOČESKÝ
VÝCHODOČESKÝ
JIHOČESKÝ
JIHOMORAVSKÝ
SEVEROMORAVSKÝ
VÝCHODOSLOVENSKÝ
STREDOSLOVENSKÝ
ZÁPADOSLOVENSKÝ
PRAGUE
VIENNA
BUDAPEST
Most
Chomutov
Děčín
Ústí nad Labem
Teplice
Kladno
Hradec Králové
Pardubice
Plzeň
Písek
Tábor
České Budějovice
Znojmo
Brno
Olomouc
Ostrava
Gottwaldov
Žilina
Poprad
Prešov
Košice
Banská Bystrica
Zvolen
Nitra
Nové Zámky
Komárno
Frankfurt
Linz
Salzburg
Elbe
Vltava
Ohře
Morava
Dyje
Váh
Hron
Ipeľ
Hornád
Bodrog
Tisa
Mala Dunaj
Danube
Oder
Neisse
BOUNDARY REPRESENTATION IS NOT NECESSARILY AUTHORITATIVE

existence (having been formed largely from the pre-World War I Austro-Hungarian Dual Monarchy), there were only 276 Slovak-language schools with 390 teachers for a population of two million; the language of instruction in the rest of the schools was Magyar (Hungarian).

The language law of 1920 permitted national minorities in Czechoslovakia to educate children in their own languages. Consequently, Czechoslovakia had not only Czech and Slovak schools but also Hungarian, Ruthenian, Polish, Romanian, and Jewish schools. During the First Republic (1918–39), the Czechoslovak school system became centralized, and control over all instruction and education was exercised by the Federal Government through its various ministries.

After the German invasion in March 1939, when Hitler established the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia in the west, the educational system was made to conform to the new political order, as in Nazi Germany. Only in Slovakia in the east, which became a puppet Nazi state, was university teaching permitted. Six years of occupation resulted in an educational gap among the young Czechs and Slovaks. Afterwards, in order to rehabilitate the country educationally, the Czechoslovak Provisional Government in 1945 drafted an outline of a future Education Act which carried the motto of Comenius: "A general education in everything human for all human beings."

In February 1948, however, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia staged a coup d'etat and took complete control of the government. First under the label of a people's democracy and since 1960 as a socialist state, the new regime brought its educational system into conformity with the principles of Marxism-Leninism. Only during the brief period of the Dubcek regime in 1968 was education in Czechoslovakia liberalized, with reformers finding their strongest followers among the students, who not only supported but also helped to initiate change. However, with Soviet military support the Czech Communist Party soon regained control, and a "normalization" process ensued. The schools and universities, centers of support for the liberal reform movement, were purged of liberal faculty members and students. Admissions policies, the teaching of ideological subjects, the relationship between the schools and the economy, and the role of vocational education all came under official scrutiny. The result has been reorganization of the Czechoslovak educational system to bring education back into line with official party policy. This shaping of education to conform to the views and the interests of the state continues.

Legal Basis

The present Czechoslovak education system was established by the Education Act of December 15, 1960. Other significant education legislation includes the Law of March 16, 1966, on Higher Education Institutions and the December 19, 1968, Law on the Reorganization of Secondary General Education Schools.

Structure

Under the basic education law of 1960, schools and other educational establishments are part of a unified formal educational system. This system includes basic 9-year schools, general secondary schools (4 years), several types of secondary vocational schools (2 to 4 years), and universities and colleges (4 to 6 years). There are also secondary schools for workers. The chart shows schools both within and outside the formal system.

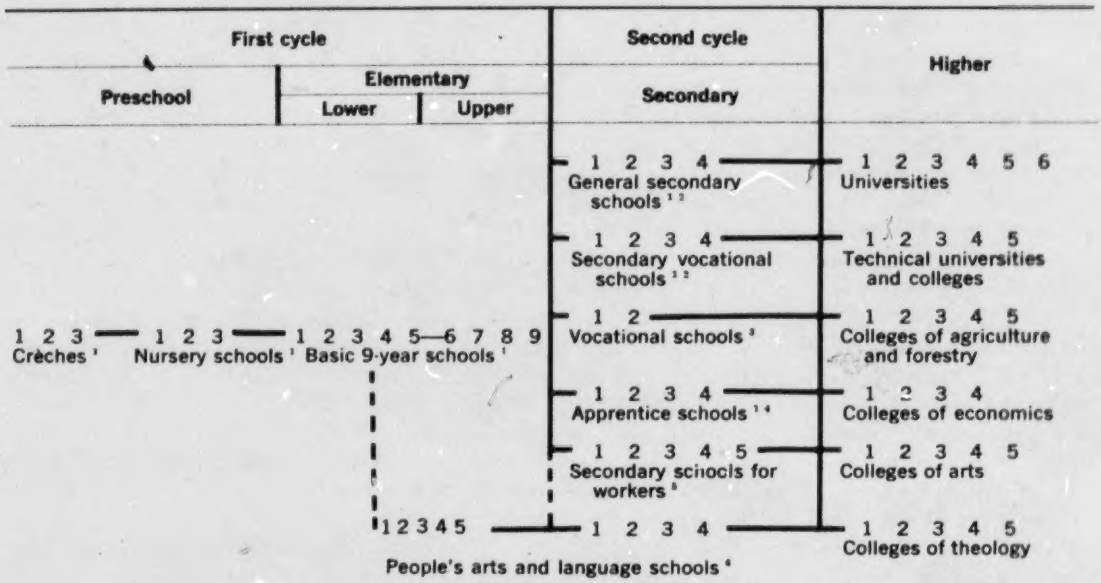
The right to education is guaranteed under the Constitution. Education is compulsory from the ages of 6 to 15, and is provided in the basic 9-year schools. All schooling in the formal system is free and public. Some educational institutions not in the formal system (e.g., children's after-school centers, youth clubs, nursery schools, children's homes, and youth hostels) are free of charge, while others (e.g., school canteens and students' hostels) are subsidized by the state. Textbooks and instructional aids are free at all schools except universities.

Administration

The school system in Czechoslovakia is governed by two ministries representing the executive branch of the Federal Government: the Ministry of Education of the Czech Socialist Republic and the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Socialist Republic. An educational council, headed by the deputy prime minister of the Federal Government, serves as a coordinating board for educational matters affecting the country as a whole.

While nursery and elementary schools are administered by district national committees, most secondary schools are managed by regional committees. The latter include general secondary schools, secondary vocational schools, vocational schools, apprentice schools, language and art schools, and schools for handicapped and mentally retarded children.

"Structure of the Educational System"



[1] Includes special schools for mentally and physically handicapped children.

[2] Includes evening classes designed for people employed during the day.

[3] Students wanting to go on to higher education may receive their certificate of maturing in secondary evening schools for workers.

[4] In an experimental program in school years 1973–74 and 1974–75, apprentices taking the 4-year program were allowed to take the maturity examination and receive the certificate of maturity which enabled them to apply for admission to higher education institutions.

[5] Separate evening schools for the employed offering refresher courses mostly in technology at different levels of secondary education leading to the certificate of maturity.

[6] Part of the out-of-school educational system designed for gifted youth and adults to develop their talent in dancing, drama, fine arts, literature, and music. Students attend these schools *in addition* to their regular schools.

Universities and colleges are governed directly by the Ministry of Education of either the Czech or the Slovak Socialist Republic through its permanent Committee for Universities and Colleges, which consists of the rectors of the universities and colleges and other experts appointed by the two respective Ministries of Education. Meetings are attended by representatives of the Socialist Union of Youth and the Union of Employees.

Financing

During 1974, education expenditures amounted to 15.7 percent of total state expenditures, or 18,466,264 korunas (Kcs)[1]—9.98 Kcs equalled U.S. $1 at the official rate of exchange in August 1975.

Academic Calendar

In elementary and secondary schools, the aca-

[1] Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Ministries of Education of the Czech and the Slovak Socialist Republics. *Development of the Educational System in the Czechoslovak Republic During the School Years 1973–74 and 1974–75*. Report presented to the 35th Session of the International Conference on Education, International Bureau of Education (IBE), UNESCO, Geneva, 1975. Prague (?): The Ministries, February 1975, p. 13.

demic year begins on or about September 1 (depending on whether the date falls on a weekend) and ends on the Friday closest to the end of June. In higher education institutions, the year is divided into two semesters. Usually the first semester starts the first week in October and ends during the second week in January, and the second semester begins the first week of February and ends in early June. In commemoration of Comenius, March 28 is celebrated as Teachers' Day.

Language of Instruction

The official language of instruction in all schools—and the required language of instruction in all elementary schools except those of minorities—is Czech or Slovak, depending on the Republic in which the school is located. The Hungarian, Ukrainian, and Polish minorities may each use their own language as the language of instruction in all subjects except those concerning Czech or Slovak language and culture, which must be taught in the Czech or Slovak language by Czechoslovak nationals.

Grading System

The grading system consists of the following terms and numerals: 1—*výborný* (excellent); 2—*chvalitebný* (very good); 3—*dobrý* (good); 4—*dostatečný* (satisfactory); and 5—*nedostatečný* (unsatisfactory). Grading is based on observation, discussion, testing, and analysis. All children in the first grade are automatically promoted to the second grade. From grade 2 through 7, however, pupils are not promoted who fail to achieve acceptable marks in the language of instruction and in mathematics or who fail a subject in two successive school terms.

Grading systems at higher education institutions vary according to the type and duration of the program, with a pass-fail system used for final exams leading to a degree. Most degrees are based on research and thesis requirements.

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Preschool institutions include *crèches* (day nurseries) for children up through age 3 and nursery schools for children from 3 to 6. The majority of children receive preschool care in these institutions.

Crèches

Sometimes provided by factories and farms, most *crèches* are organized by national committees under the supervision of the Czech or Slovak Ministry of Health. *Crèches* are open primarily to children of employed mothers or those who cannot look after their children because of poor health or other reasons. Under the supervision of doctors, children are cared for by nurses, assisted by less qualified helpers.

The children are divided into groups for games and other activities according to age—up to 10

Number of schools, students, and teachers, by type of school: 1974–75

Type of School	Schools	Students	Teachers
Total	21,525	3,197,349	202,164
Nurseries	8,871	440,022	38,536
Basic 9-year schools	9,840	1,884,332	96,124
Secondary:			
General secondary schools	337	119,998	8,059
Vocational schools	573	200,419	16,500
Apprentice schools	238	159,138	10,485
Schools for workers	68	4,105	----
Special schools	1,088	60,217	6,138
People's schools of arts	461	181,522	7,809
People's schools of language	13	51,373	1,747
Higher education	36	144,968	16,766

Source: Adapted from—Ministries of Czech and Slovak Republics. *Development of Educational Systems in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic During the School Year 1973–74 and 1974–75.* Report presented to 35th Session of the International Conference on Education, IBE, UNESCO, Geneva, 1975. Prague (?): The Ministries, February 1975. Passim.

months, 10 to 18 months, and 18 months to 3 years. The emphasis of the program is on play, rest, hygiene, habit and attitude training, and welfare.

Nursery Schools

Nursery schools concentrate on the physical, mental, and aesthetic development of children. Under close supervision, children are informally taught the rudiments of "socially useful work" through disciplined living. The beginning and end of the day are flexible to fit parents' working hours. Children are usually divided into three groups according to age. Games, drawing, painting, modeling, puppetry, nursery rhymes, and other activities are arranged according to the age group. In 1974–75 there were 8,871 nursery schools with a total enrollment of 440,022 children attended by 38,536 teachers (11.4 children per teacher). The directives of the 14th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia called for all 5-year-old children to attend nursery schools by 1975.

Although the majority of nursery schools are equipped, financed, and administered by local committees, some industrial, building, or agricultural organizations have their own nursery schools. So also have the minorities of Hungarian, Polish, and Ukrainian background in their respective geographic regions; in all such cases, however, children are also taught the Czech or the Slovak languages.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Compulsory education is provided by the basic 9-year schools for young people between the ages of 6 and 15. Elementary education is divided into two stages—lower elementary (grades 1–5) and upper elementary (grades 6–9). Subjects taught include arithmetic (grades 1–5), art (grades 1–9), chemistry (grades 8–9), handicrafts (grades 1–9), the language of instruction (e.g., Czech, Slovak, or the minority language) and its literature (grades 1–9), mathematics (grades 6–9), music (grades 1–9), physical education (grades 1–9), physics (grades 7–9), Russian language (grades 4–9), science (grades 6–9), and social studies (grades 6–9).[2]

As a result of a resolution made at the July 1973 plenary session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party regarding modification of compulsory education, consideration is being given to gradually reducing the lower elementary stage of the basic schools from 5 to 4 years. Experimental classes along this line were begun in the 1973–74 school year and continued in the 1974–75 school year. For example, in the 1974–75 school year, some pupils who had completed grade 8 of the basic 9-year schools were chosen and accepted, on an experimental basis, in the first year of the general secondary schools. The results of such experiments will be evaluated. However, according to the Ministries of Education of the Czech and Slovak Socialist Republics during the 1973–74 and 1974–75 school years, "no steps have been taken which would result in changing the school system."[3]

In order to create favorable conditions for children's out-of-school work and to help working mothers, after-school centers have been organized for pupils in grades 1 through 5 and youth clubs for pupils in grades 6 through 9. Here children engage in manual work, sport, or play or prepare the next day's lessons under the supervision of instructors.

The formal educational work of pupils is supplemented by extramural competitions, like the "mathematical olympiad" with about 25,000 competitors every year, and by activities under the auspices of the Pioneer organizations and the Union of Socialist Youth.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

After completing compulsory basic 9-year schools, most pupils (about 90 percent) apply for admission to a secondary school. Selection of applicants is made by an admission board of the secondary school, headed by the director, on the basis of the applicant's past school record and an interview. The evaluation of candidates for secondary studies is complex and takes into consideration not only attributes such as talent and diligence, but also economic and class background.

General Secondary Schools

Also known as the *gymnasium*, the 4-year general secondary school's main function is to prepare students for entrance to higher education. Previously 3 years in length, general secondary education was required by the December 19, 1968, Law on the Reorganization of Secondary General Education Schools to offer a 4-year

[2] UNESCO. "Czechoslovakia," *Country Education Profiles*. Geneva: International Bureau of Education (IBE), 1973, p. 3.

[3] Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Ministries of Education of the Czech and the Slovak Socialist Republics. Op. cit., p. 17.

program. This transition was completed in the 1973–74 school year.

There are two branches of study—one emphasizing the sciences, and the other, the humanities. About two-thirds of the students at these schools are enrolled in the sciences and one-third in the humanities. Curriculums in both branches offer a variety of subjects from which students can choose, depending on whether they plan after graduation to continue their studies at a higher education institution or begin employment. Usually science students in the former category take intensive course work in mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, geology, descriptive geometry, and technical drawing; and humanities students take extensive course work in foreign languages, social sciences, history, and art. Those students in the second category, who plan to enter a particular occupation immediately after graduation, take concentrated course work in fields such as economics, technology, machinery, public administration, shorthand, and bookkeeping.

Students who successfully complete the program receive the certificate of maturity, which qualifies them to apply for admission to higher education institutions.

Secondary Vocational Schools

Providing 4-year programs for about 20 percent of all 9-year basic school graduates, secondary vocational schools offer a combination of vocational training and general education leading to occupation qualification and a certificate of maturity. They also provide 2-year programs without the general subjects for students who already have a certificate of maturity. These schools, like the general secondary schools, have science and humanities sections.

Secondary vocational schools are divided into eight specialties—(1) *agriculture;* (2) *economics,* to train administrative workers and technical staff for industry and building enterprises; (3) *fine arts;* (4) *forestry;* (5) *health services;* (6) *library work;* (7) *teacher training,* to staff preschools, after-school centers, youth clubs, and other educational facilities; and (8) *technical training,* to prepare technical staff for various industrial sectors.

The numbers of schools and students in each specialty in 1974–75 were as follows:[4]

Specialty	Schools	Students
Total	557	196,681
Agriculture	125	23,640
Economics	111	46,642
Fine arts	9	2,776
Forestry	10	1,697
Health services	78	28,102
Library work	3	1,021
Teacher training	20	7,533
Technical training	201	85,270

Although the chief aim of secondary vocational schools is to train future technical and economic staff of Czechoslovakia, many students after receiving their certificates of maturity continue their studies at universities and colleges.

Vocational Schools

Vocational schools provide a 2-year program for those who have completed the basic 9-year schools. They prepare students for office work and employment in fields such as health services and some branches of agriculture and forestry. Graduates of these schools do not receive the certificate of maturity and thus cannot apply for admission to higher education institutions. They can, however, go on to complete the full secondary education program, receive the certificate of maturity, and then apply for admission to higher studies.

Apprentice Schools

Apprentice or trade schools train graduates of basic 9-year schools in 2- to 4-year programs to become skilled workers, in accordance with terms set forth in a contract signed by the apprentice and his or her employer. The apprenticeship includes general education and practical and theoretical training, and is concluded by a final examination. In the 1973–74 and 1974–75 school years, an experiment was begun whereby apprentices concluding the 4-year program in some types of apprentice schools could take the maturity examination and receive the certificate of maturity. During the 1974–75 school year there were 238 apprentice schools, with an enrollment of 159,138.

Secondary Schools for Workers

Working adults who have completed the basic 9-year school program may enroll in secondary schools for workers, which offer an evening study program of approximately 5 years. Graduates receive the certificate of maturity and may apply for admission to higher education institutions. In

[4] Ibid., pp. 43–49.

the 1974–75 school year, there were 68 such schools, with an enrollment of 4,105 students.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special schools provide elementary and secondary education and instruction for physically and mentally handicapped children to enable them as adults to find a useful place in society. In 1974–75 there were 1,088 such schools with a total enrollment of 60,217 pupils.

PEOPLE'S ARTS AND LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Not part of the formal education system, people's arts schools and people's language schools provide optional study in arts and languages for talented young people who desire to develop their abilities in the visual arts, music, dance, drama, or foreign languages. Children recommended by their teachers may attend these schools in their spare time while continuing their studies in regular schools. In 1974–75 there were 461 arts schools and 13 language schools with enrollments of 181,522 and 51,373 respectively.

TEACHER EDUCATION

Teacher training is offered at three kinds of institutions, according to the level to be taught. Teachers for nursery schools are trained at pedagogical schools (a type of secondary vocational school) in a 4-year secondary course in child care and academic discipline leading to a general certificate of education. Since 1971, some students preparing to be nursery school teachers have also attended university faculties of education in an experimental program.

Teachers for the basic 9-year schools are trained in 4-year programs at university faculties of education. Teachers for secondary schools are trained in 5-year programs at university faculties of philosophy, natural sciences, or physical education and sports. Graduates receive a diploma showing the major field of study and the level of school for which the teaching qualification was obtained. The title for a basic 9-year school teacher is Teacher and for a secondary school teacher, Secondary School Professor.

More recently both Ministries of Education have emphasized advancement of teachers through 4-semester graduate programs in the university pedagogical faculties. Since 1971, every teacher during the first 10 years of his or her teaching experience must undertake such a program. The first two semesters focus on political and pedagogical subjects, and the last two on a teacher's subject of specialization. A final examination is required.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Governed by the March 16, 1966, Law on Higher Education Institutions, higher education is linked "both perspectively and directly with the national economy, research, science, and culture in the CSSR."[5] Higher education institutions consist of universities, technical universities and colleges, and colleges of arts, agriculture, economics, forestry, theology, and veterinary medicine.

[5] Institute of Educational Information attached to the Ministry of Education of the CSR. *Educationanl System in the CSSR*. Prague: The Institute, 1974, p. 42.

Higher education institutions, with location, dates founded, and faculties: 1974–75
[---- indicates source gave no information]

Name of institutions	Location	Date founded	Faculties
		Universities	
Charles University	Prague	1348	General medicine, law, mathematics, medicine (in Hradec Králové), medicine (in Plzeň), medical hygiene, natural sciences, pedagogy, pediatrics, pharmacy (in Hradec Králové), philosophy, physical education and sports, physics, and social sciences and journalism.
Palacký University	Olomouc	1573	Medicine, natural sciences, pedagogy, and philosophy.

Higher education institutions, with location, dates founded, and faculties: 1974–75 (Con.)

Name of institutions	Location	Date founded	Faculties
Comenius University	Bratislava	1919	Law, medicine (also in Martin), natural sciences, pedagogy (in Trnava), pharmacy, philosophy, and physical education and sports.
John Evangelist Purkyně University	Brno	1919	Law, medicine, natural sciences, pedagogy, and philosophy.
Pavel Jozef Šafárik University	Košice	1959	Medicine, natural sciences, pedagogy (in Prešov), and philosophy (in Prešov).
Veterinary University	Brno	1969	----
	Technical Universities and Colleges[1]		
Czech Technical University	Prague	1707	Building construction, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and nuclear and physical engineering.
Mining University	Ostrava	1849	Mechanical engineering, metallurgy, and mining geology.
Technical University	Brno	1899	Building construction, electrical technology, mechanical engineering, and technology (in Gottwaldov).
Slovak Technical University	Bratislava	1938	Building construction, chemical technology, electrical technology, and mechanical engineering.
Chemico-Technological University	Pardubice	1950	----
Mechanical and Electrotechnical University	Plzeň	1950	Electrical technology and mechanical engineering.
Chemico-technical University	Prague	1952	Chemical engineering, chemical technology, combustion technology and hydrology, and food processing and biochemical technology.
Technical University	Košice	1952	Electrical technology, mechanical engineering, metallurgy, and mining.
Transport University	Žilina	1952	Electrical technology, mechanical engineering, and transfer and economics.
Mechanical and Textile University	Liberec	1953	Mechanical engineering and textile engineering.
	Colleges of Arts		
Academy of Fine Arts	Prague	1799	----
Academy of Musical Arts	Prague	1811	Film, music, television, theater.
College of Industrial Arts	Prague	1885	----
Janáček Academy of Musical Arts	Brno	1947	Music.
College of Fine Arts	Bratislava	1949	----
College of Musical Arts	Bratislava	1959	Music and theatre.

Higher education institutions, with location, dates founded, and faculties: 1974–75 (Con.)

Name of institutions	Location	Date founded	Faculties
Colleges of Economics			
College of Economics	Prague	1953	Domestic and foreign trade, general economics, and production economics.
College of Economics	Bratislava (and a branch in Košice)	1953	Commerce, economic and industrial production, general economics, and management.
Colleges of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine			
Agricultural College	Brno	1919	Agricultural economics, agronomy, and forestry.
Agricultural College	Nitra	1952	Agricultural economics, agronomy, mechanics, and pedagogy.
Agricultural College	Prague (and a branch in České Budějovice)	1952	Agricultural economics, agronomy, and mechanics.
Forestry and Wood Processing College	Zvolen	1952	Forestry and wood processing.
Veterinary College	Košice	1969	Veterinary medicine.
Colleges of Theology			
Cyrillus-Methodius Roman Catholic Theological College	Bratislava	1919	----
Cyrillus-Methodius Roman Catholic Theological College	Olomouc	1919	----
Huss Czechoslovak Theological College	Prague	1919	----
Slovak Evangelical Theological College	Bratislava	1934	----
Comenius Evangelical Theological College	Prague	1950	----
Cyrillus-Methodius Roman Catholic Theological College	Litomerice	1950	----
Orthodox Catholic Theological College	Prešov	1950	----

[1] So-called "Independent Pedagogical Faculties" belonging to various technical universities and colleges were founded in 1959 in Banská Bystrica, České Budějovice, Hradec Králové, Nitra, Ostrava, Plzeň, and Ústí and Labem.

Source: Adapted from Federální statistický úrad, *Statistická ročenka Československé socialistické republiky* (Prague: SNTL, 1972), pp. 504–507.

Administration

Each higher education institution is headed by a rector, appointed for a 3-year period by the President of the Republic in which the school is located. Universities are usually divided into faculties, with each faculty administered by a dean and assistant deans. Professors and associate professors are appointed by the President of each Republic following Government recommendations. Assistant professors are appointed by the respective Ministers of Education; senior lecturers and lecturers are appointed by the rectors.

Admission Requirements

To be admitted to a higher education institution, of which there were 36 in the 1974–75 academic year, an applicant must have the certificate of maturity and pass an entrance examination. Additional factors taken into consideration in student admissions include the number of applicants and openings available for a given specialty. As a rule, admission quotas are determined each academic year by the two Ministries of Education.

First-Degree Programs

The length of studies leading to the first degree in higher education institutions is generally from 5 to 6 years, depending on the institution and the field of study, although some programs (e.g., those training teachers for the basic 9-year schools) consist of only 4 years. Upon successfully completing the required studies and passing the diploma examination, a graduate receives a diploma and a title in a given specialization. Some examples of fields of study, with the years required and the title given, are as follows:

Agriculture, economics, engineering	5	*Inženýr*, Ing. (Engineer)
Fine Arts:		
Architecture	6	*Akademický architekt* (Certified Architect)
Painting	6	*Akademický malíř* (Certified Painter)
Sculpture	6	*Akademický sochař* (Certified Sculptor)
Medicine	6	*Doktor medicíny* (Doctor of Medicine)
Veterinary Medicine	5½	*Doktor veterinářství* (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine)

Students completing studies in various other fields must pass a rigorous examination known as the *examen rigorosum* or *rigorosní zkouška*. Such fields of study with the years required and the title given include the following:

Law	5	*Doktor práv* (Doctor of Law)
Natural Sciences	5	*Doktor přírodovědy* (Doctor of Natural Sciences)
Philosophy	5	*Doktor filosofie* (Doctor of Philosophy)

Graduate-Degree Programs

There are two levels of graduate-degree programs offered by either the research council of a higher education institution or by the presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences or the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

The degree program for the Candidate of Science (*kandidát věd*, or *candidatus scientiarum*, C.Sc.) usually takes about 3 years after the first degree and requires a student to pass an examination and to submit and defend a thesis. The field of study in which the degree is obtained is specified; e.g., doctor of medical sciences (*doktor lékařských věd*) or candidate of legal sciences (*kandidát právních věd*).

A further degree, that of doctor of sciences (*doktor věd*, or *doctor scientiarum*, Dr., Sc.) "indicates that its holder possesses very high scholarly or scientific qualifications, confirmed by original work, valuable either for its bearing on research or because of its practical applications and revealing a genuine originality of approach. A thesis must be submitted in order to obtain this degree."[8]

GLOSSARY OF SELECTED EDUCATIONAL TERMS

Czech	*English*
A	
Akademický architekt	Certified Architect
Akademický malíř	Certified Painter
Akademický sochař	Certified Sculptor
C	
Candidatus scientiarum (C.Sc.)	Candidate of Science
Chvalitebný	Very good
D	
Diplom	Diploma
Dobrý	Good

[8] Otakar Plundr. "Czechoslovakia," *Methods of Establishing Equivalences Between Degrees and Diplomas*. Paris: UNESCO, 1970, p. 21.

Doctor medicinae universae (MUDr.)	Doctor of General Medicine
Doctor rerum naturalium (RNDr.)	Doctor of Natural Science
Doctor scientiarum (Dr. Sc.)	Doctor of Sciences
Doktor filosofie	Doctor of Philosophy
Doktor lékařských věd	Doctor of Medical Sciences
Doktor medicíny	Doctor of Medicine
Doktor práv	Doctor of Law(s)
Doktor přírodovědy	Doctor of Natural Sciences
Doktor věd	Doctor of Sciences
Doktor veterinářství	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
Dostatečný	Satisfactory

E

Examen rigorosum	Rigorous examination

F

Fakulta bohoslovecká	Faculty of Theology
Fakulta filosofická	Faculty of Philosophy
Fakulta lékařská	Faculty of Medicine
Fakulta přírodovědecká	Faculty of Natural Science

G

Gymnásium	General secondary school

I

Inženýr	Engineer

J

Jesle	*Crèche*, day nursery for children up through age 3

K

Kandidát právních ved	Candidate of Legal Sciences
Kandidát věd	Candidate of Sciences

L

Lidová škola umění	People's school of arts
Lidová škola jazyků	People's school of languages

M

Matura	Leaving certificate
Mateřská škola	Nursery school (kindergarten)
Ministerstvo školstva	Ministry of Education

N

Nedostatečný	Unsatisfactory

O

Odborné školy	Technical/vocational schools
Opatrovna	Nursery school (kindergarten)

R

Rigorosní zkouška	Rigorous examination

S

Státní Konservatoř	State Conversatory
Střední odborná škola	Secondary vocational school
Střední škola	Secondary school
Střední škola pro pracující	Secondary school for workers
Střední všeobecně vzdělávající škola	General secondary school

U

Učňovská škola	Apprentice school

V

Věda	Science
Výborný	Excellent
Vysoká škola	Higher educational institution
Vysoká škola ekonomická	College of economics
Vysoká škola technická	Higher technical school
Vysoká škola výtvarných umění	College of fine arts
Vysoká škola zemědělská	College of agriculture
Vysoká škola zemědělská a lesnická	College of agriculture and forestry
Vysvědčení	Certificate
Vysvědčení dospělosti	Certificate of maturity
Vysvědčení o maturitní zkoušce	Certificate of maturity examination

Z

Základní devítiletá škola	Basic 9-year school

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